GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:448
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2016
Royalty for Bt. Cotton Seed
Jayadevan Shri C. N.;Reddy Shri Ch. Malla

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of royalty paid by the Government of Bt. Cotton seed companies including Monsanto during the last three years and the current year, year-wise;

(b) whether a Government Committee has recommended 70 per cent reduction in the royalty fee for Monsanto"s genetically modified Bt. cotton seeds, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether many States have also opposed payment of royalty to Bt. Cotton seed companies after large scale destruction of Bt. Cotton crops in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto;

(e) the details of the institutes engaged in developing genetically modified cotton seeds in the country; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to popularize the indigenously by developed genetically modified cotton seeds among the farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a): The Central Government has not paid any amount of royalty to Bt. Cotton seed companies for Bt. Cotton technologies. However, the National Seeds Association of India (an association of Indian seed companies) has reported that, during last three years, Mahyco-Monsanto Biotech (India) Limited has collected royalty from domestic (private) seed companies as per details given below:-

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Year	Royalty (Rs. in lakh)
2011-12	60969.40
2012-13	64773.50
2013-14	69941.15
2014-15	83491.66

(b): Yes, the Committee had recommended a trait value of Rs.49 per 450 gm packet of BG-II Bt. Cotton seeds as against last year's trait value charged of Rs.174.40 for northern India and Rs.163.28 for the rest of India.

(c) & (d): The cotton growing States like Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, etc., have reported increased incidence of pink Bollworm in Bt. Cotton and suggested for reduction in trait value of Bt. Cotton.

(e): Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur, University of Agriculture Sciences, Dharwad, National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow, etc., are involved in trying to develop genetically modified cotton seeds in the country.

(f): ICAR has initiated testing of 20 Indigenously developed Bt. Cotton varieties during Kharif 2016 to identify suitability of the variety in different agro-climatic zones and these lines will be further promoted through Front Line Demonstrations.

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